

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USUN N 02754 270451Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----082728 270452Z /10
O 270407Z AUG 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5059
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2754

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, KN, KS
SUBJ: CORE GROUP MEETING AUGUST 26 (SUMMARY)

REF: A) USUN 2658; B) USUN 2722 (NOTAL)

1. CORE GROUP MET BRIEFLY AT WORKING-LEVEL ON AUGUST 26 AT BELGIAN MISSION (REF B). ALL MEMBERS PRESENT EXCEPT NEW ZEALAND WHICH ATTENDED SUBSEQUENT ROK LUNCHEON.
2. AFTER EMPHASIZING NEED TO MAINTAIN STRICTEST CONFIDENTIALITY AT THIS JUNCTURE REGARDING CORE GROUP ACTIVITIES, ROK CHAIRMAN AHN CONVEYED SEOUL'S DEEP APPRECIATION FOR CORE GROUP'S EFFORTS WHICH ASSISTED IN BRINGING ABOUT NORTH CONFIDENTIAL

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KOREA'S DECISION NOT TO SEEK INSCRIPTION OF PRO-DPRK ITEM (REF A). IN ASKING CORE GROUP TO SUSTAIN ITS INTEREST IN KOREAN QUESTION, HE STRESSED THAT, WHILE SEOUL BELIEVES IT HAS ACHIEVED SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVE, FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEM OF KOREAN QUESTION REMAINS.

3. REGARDING SEOUL'S LONG-TERM PLANS, AHN RECALLED ITS

WELL-KNOWN POSITION SUPPORTING UN MEMBERSHIP FOR BOTH KOREAS. HE SAID SEOUL WAS CONSIDERING A LONG-RANGE PROGRAM TO ACHIEVE MEMBERSHIP, BUT THERE WAS NOTHING SPECIFIC TO PUT FORWARD ON THIS.

4. AHN EXPRESSED INTEREST IN NORTH KOREA'S MOTIVIES NOT TO SEEK INSCRIPTION. GROUP CONSIDERED THAT REASONS FOR WITHDRAWAL LAST YEAR AND NON-INSCRIPTION THIS YEAR MAY HAVE BEEN BASICALLY THE SAME; I.E., ENTHUSIASM AMONG NON-ALIGNED FOR DPRK POSITION HAD DIMINISHED. IN THIS CONNECTION, UNLESS DPRK HAD SOME VALID REASON TO GO FOR A RESOLUTION, A DIVISIVE ITEM REQUIRING STATES TO VOTE WAS DIFFICULT TO PROMOTE. THERE ALSO WAS NOTE OF DPRK'S ECONOMIC NEEDS AND US TROOP WITHDRAWAL POLICY AS POSSIBLY INFLUENCING DPRK'S 1977 DECISION. ADDITIONALLY, GROUP RECOGNIZED ROK'S VIGOROUS EFFORTS TO DEVELOP ITS RELATIONS IN AFRICA AND ELSEWHERE.

5. AS AHN ADJOURNED MEETING SINE DIE, GROUP EXPRESSED THANKS FOR HIS FINE CHAIRMANSHIP. IT WAS CLEAR THAT MEETING HAD SYMBOLIC IMPORTANCE FOR ROK.

LEONARD

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